

The Colored American

Published by THE COLORED AMERICAN Publishing Company.

A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

Published every Saturday, 459 C St. N. W. Washington, D. C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One year	\$2.00
Six months	1.10
Three months	.60

INvariably IN ADVANCE.

Subscriptions may be sent by postoffice money order, express or by registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact, all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send or instructions.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Reading notices 50 cents per line. Display advertisements, \$2 per square inch per insertion. Discounts made on large contracts. Entered at the Post-office as second-class matter.

All letters, communications, and business matters should be addressed to

THE COLORED AMERICAN,
EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER
459 C Street Northwest.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sold by all all News Dealers.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1902.

DUTY AND DESTINY.

To be honest, to be kind, to earn a little and to spend a little less; to make upon the whole a family happier for his presence; to renounce when that shall be necessary and not be embittered to keep a few friends, but these without capitulation—above all, on the same grim condition to keep friends with himself—here is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and delicacy.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

WHO PAYS THE TAXES?

One Col. Talbert, who aspires to be governor of South Carolina says:

"The black and the spelling book must be taken away from the Negro. Let the Negro go to the fields where he belongs; let him pay his teachers as he does his preacher and let the white man's axes go to educate the white man's children."

In this utterance Col. Talbert does not represent the best sentiment of the South. He does not speak for the bankers, the merchants, nor the great land owners of the progressive states, for they are wise enough to understand that fundamental principle of economics that the consumers pay all the taxes, and that the apparent tax payer is nothing more than a middle-man or distributing agent between the actual producer and the revenue officer. These men do not care to have too much stress laid upon this fact, because, while little may be feared from a revolt of Negroes against the unequal division of profits, the South is developing an industrial system in which white men are gradually increasing, and this class may be too intelligent to be put aside by sophistries or controlled by racial animosities. The wealthy manufacturer or planter of the South wishes peace along both social and economic lines and he can afford to be generous. It is the "cracker" class that howl about Negro progress, and who decry the spelling book for Negro use. Crackers are numerous but, aided by the sympathy and money of the northern philanthropists, the blacks are outstripping them in the arts and sciences, and the poorer classes are incubating drastic measures to keep them back. It is to them

that such marplots as Col. Talbert addresses his remarks, and from them he receives vociferous and uncouth "amen!"

As a matter of fact the Negro is the backbone of southern industry. He is a producer for others, but his labor is the essential ingredient in the taxable quality of his production. He is a heavy consumer, and pays his tax in rents and in the profits adduced from the sale to him of living necessities. Take the Negro out of the economic sphere of the South, and you have little left. He is not only paying his own preachers directly, and his teachers partly so—but the Negro by the revenue derived from his brawny muscles, is contributing to the education of the white man's children. These are facts.

Of course this argument will not appeal to Col. Talbert, for he is a special pleader, and is blind and deaf to reason. It will not appeal to the audience he addresses, for they are besotted with prejudice and jealousy under the magic of his cunning platitudes and brutal philosophy. Talbert is worse than his dupes, for he knows better, but is playing them for the sake of place and power at the expense of his finer sense of decency and fair play.

Our prayer is that there will rise up in many quarters, proud, high-minded white men who will decline to win by despicable means, when they can succeed more permanently by righteous ones, and who will rebuke with all their might the un-Americanism of Talbert, Tillman and that entire outfit of blackguards and political brigands.

This represents what the 57th Congress did for the Negro—000!

THE GOSPEL OF WORK.

Everybody must work at something. This is the inexorable law of nature, and he who tries to escape it will be broken upon the wheel. Servers and the served simply exchange places as the character of service is required, and the best thinkers dismiss the threadbare notion that any particular kind of labor was divinely ordained to be performed by any particular division of the human family. There is no legitimate race or national line in the distribution of talents or opportunities.

Nobody is too good to work at anything that serves mankind, or makes for the glory of the Almighty. By reason of superior adaptability, personal taste, or love of ease, all of us prefer to follow the business that pleases us, but if necessity calls an individual to an uncongenial occupation, the work should be done in the very best manner possible, until something more to the liking can be found. While thousands are trained to write a prescription, preach a sermon, instruct a class, edit a newspaper, conduct a business or to help govern a nation many more will be called to sweep a floor, nurse the sick professionally, set type, cook a meal, wait on the table, wash and iron clothing, make a dress or suit in style, trim a hat, fell a tree, or dig a ditch. Whatever one's station let it be filled capably and thoroughly. It is the cheerful laborer who most speedily wins promotion, and the fittest will be first called to more lucrative rewards. It is noble to strive for preferment, but ignoble to sit down impatiently and whine because Dame Fortune refuses to offer us our desires upon a silver platter.

The gospel of work is a time-worn text, but The Colored American loves

to preach it again and again, and suggests that the Negro pulpits hammer away every Sabbath day upon the same line.

The governors of Illinois and North Carolina are setting a fine example for other executives in their efforts to sustain the majesty of the law.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONGRESS.

Prof. I. Garland Penn and Rev. J. W. E. Bowen, the corresponding secretaries of the Young People's Christian and Educational Congress, are putting the finishing touches upon what promises to be the largest outpouring of Afro-Americans that this continent has ever witnessed. It will be held at Atlanta, Ga., from August 6th to 14th. The movement is undenominational, and the forty religious and educational agencies, are estimated to attract to Georgia's capital upwards of 15,000 people. The purpose is to reach the unreached Negro. The discussions announced for the meeting cover a wide range of topics, and the attendance of many delegates of national reputation, gives assurance that the Congress will exert a vast spiritual influence upon the race and country at large. Reduced rates are offered by the railroads, and the local committees guarantee a happy time for all visitors during their stay in Atlanta. We bespeak for the Congress a great success.

Race prejudice should be stamped out of Cuba at once.

Build today.

Major Michael Jenkins is a democrat, but not of the lynching variety.

Comparisons may be drawn, but British subjects are not lynched or burned at the stake.

The need of the race is men—men with rich, red, aggressive blood in their veins, backed by character and intelligence.

King Edward has more black subjects than any other ruler on earth, but he manages to jog along comfortably without a "race problem."

It may be that the Council's fizzle at St. Paul is, in some measure, due to the failure of the Boston Guardian's man to so arrange with the railroads that he could be present.

When a newspaper makes a personal attack upon high officials of as great an organization as the A. M. F. Church, it should be sure that confirmatory evidence can be produced. Groundless charges will prove a boomerang.

The irrigation law enacted by Congress provides for the reclamation of a vast area of arid lands in the West. This offers another great chance for the pioneer Negro who wishes to relieve the congested South to find a home free in a land of unlimited opportunity. Has the Negro the pioneer spirit?

According to the latest report Tuskegee Institute enrolled last session 1,390 students, 939 young men and 460 young women. The value of buildings added by student labor this year is \$59,318.18. Total receipts for the year outside of cash and labor paid

by students have been \$326,892.23. The endowment fund now stands \$299,161.02. Great is Tuskegee Institute and great is Booker T. Washington.

Mr. Cooper did not go to St. Paul because he had no time to waste. He is convinced that he can better serve the masses by staying at home and attending to the business of getting out a fearless race advocate than by running after fake press conventions and councils that exist only on paper. Mr. Cooper is not a dress-parade warrior. It is hoped that the Boston Guardian is satisfied.

We call upon the Negro press of the country protest every week against the appointment of Senator McLaurin to a judgeship on the Court of Claims. "Lily-whiteism," fostered by a republican administration, means the finish of the Negro as a factor in the South or North. McLaurinism stands for the elimination of the Negro. His defeat would save the republicans the mistake of giving such a policy their endorsement.

Mrs. James B. Dudley, wife of the president of the A. and M. College, Greensboro, N. C., has written a drama entitled the "Evolution of the Negro," which was played by the students of that school to the delight of a crowded house. Mrs. Dudley is a splendid woman and a true helpmeet to her distinguished husband. The talent of our women is being developed in a very plausible way. More should launch out into new fields.

J. H. Stotsenberg, of Indiana, in indicting the Christian Church for its flagrant dereliction of duty in failing to cry out against the mighty sin of this nation committed against the defenseless Negro, sounds very much like the bugle-blast of Albion W. Tourgee before he became discouraged by the black race's indifference to its own welfare. We would draw thousands of white friends to our standard if we would put up an intelligent, united and unwavering fight for ourselves.

We do not share in the feeling that Ben Tillman should not be invited to be present at Negro gatherings, or be asked to say something. It would be a revelation to him were he allowed the privilege of witnessing our annual high school drills and commencement, and see the handsome colored audiences that attend these functions. Among other faults that mar Tillman's judgment, is his ignorance of things he ought to know. Yes, let Tillman come around and see us at our best.

The Colored American is a sincere friend and admirer of Bishop Alexander Walters. He is a thorough race man, and his advice is always sound, progressive and courageous. He is hopeful under the most distressing circumstances, yet never under-rates the gravity of a situation. Had his plans been faithfully adhered to, the Afro-American Council would have been entrenched in every state, and any party candidate hoping for success would have had a massive organization to reckon with.

The grand jury has returned an indictment against John R. Russell for violating a United States postal law. It is not believed that there is enough in the case to warrant a serious trial.